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Senator Frank Church, Chairman
Select Committee to Study
Governmental Operations With
Respect to Intelligence Activities
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Nov 26 12 40 PM '75

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Referral to NSC Not Required

In your letter to me of November 14 you asked what steps the Executive Branch had taken to implement the provisions of Public Law 93-475, enacted in 1974, relating to the responsibility of the United States Ambassadors. That law amended the basic Department of State Authorization Act. (22 U.S.C. 2680A), and codified existing policy, as was noted by the report of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations: Section 8. Authority and Responsibility of Ambassadors. "This section, initiated by Senators Muskie and Case, enacts into law what has heretofore had only the force of executive directive. It formally vests in each American Ambassador to a foreign country full responsibility for the activities of all U.S. Government employees assigned to duty in that country, except personnel under the command of a United States area military commander. The section also contains a complementary provision which charges each agency having personnel in a foreign country with the responsibility of seeing that those personnel are responsive to the Ambassador

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and that the Ambassador is kept fully informed of their activities. It thus imposes a mutual responsibility: upon the Ambassador to seek information and to exercise command, and upon others to provide information and to respond to his directives."

President Kennedy's letter of May 29, 1961, President Nixon's similar letter of December 9, 1969, and the Department of State Circular Airgram CA-6693 - December 17, 1969 - address the same issues this legislation does. The Department of State informed all major embassies of the enactment of this legislation, Public Law 93-475, by Airgram 5052 of July 25, 1975, and consideration is being given to a letter from President Ford to all Ambassadors on the subject.

Gerald Ford

Clearances:

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S/S
CIA

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: <i>Mr. George Carey</i>		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
<p><i>Fitter</i></p> <p><i>This was earlier version to which we objected and received revision reflected our views</i></p> <p><i>2</i></p>		
FROM		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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STATINTL